

about whether Democrats or Republicans would win politically. It is because we know the American people would lose.

Mr. Speaker, let me tell you why I am deeply concerned that we are headed for a government shutdown on March 14. I am worried because the Speaker has not brought the 12 individual spending bills, which is the way we should fund the government. In fact, it is the promise that was made by my Republican colleagues on how we would fund the government.

Republicans have made the argument that the last election was about the status quo disappearing, that it can't exist and that people are fed up.

They created DOGE, which is going through the Federal Government and finding fraud, waste, and abuse, so they say and so they claim. If that is true, Mr. Speaker, if Elon Musk and DOGE have found all that fraud, waste, and abuse, the hundreds of billions of dollars as they claim, then, Mr. Speaker, we can't fund the government by CR anymore because the CR would refund all of that waste, fraud, and abuse that DOGE has found. That means the only way to fund the government is to fund it by individual spending bills, but we are running out of time, Mr. Speaker.

We have a month before the government shuts down. We have to get back to the process of individual spending bills. If we don't, then the Speaker will be the one who will have closed the government for the American people.

I am concerned, and I am here to work with the Speaker on the 12 individual spending bills. Democrats are at the table to do that, but we have to be honest. We can't tell the American people we are for reducing fraud, waste, and abuse, that we are for government efficiency and to look at all these things we have found, and then say that we are going to refund them all with a clean CR.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to say: I am here. I am willing to stay weekends. I am willing to work for the next month so that we can fund the government appropriately with the 12 individual spending bills, a promise that my Republican colleagues made.

The Speaker has to start getting that train moving. Otherwise, he will close the government.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 35 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Wise God, what wondrous words You offer us: Your words of counsel, Your words of guidance, Your words of wisdom. Such knowledge is too wonderful for us. Who are we that You are mindful of us? Yet You made us a little lower than the angels, have crowned us with glory and honor, and placed everything at our feet.

Then how important it is for us to pay attention to the words You speak and to hear the insight you reveal to us. Your thoughts are not our thoughts, and so it behooves us to listen closely to Your voice, lest we become inured to it. Your ways are not our ways, and so we must discipline our steps to walk in the path You lay before us, lest we drift from it.

Hold us accountable to our stewardship of the knowledge and wisdom You provide, that nothing we say or do would cause us to stray from Your intent.

In faith we approach You with arms wide open to receive the abundance of spiritual truths You measure out for us this day.

In Your merciful name we pray.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House the approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1 of rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SUBRAMANYAM) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

RIGGED ELECTION IN GEORGIA

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, in October, the Putinist Georgian Dream regime in the country of Georgia rigged an election. This regime seeks to steal the future of the Georgian people and sell it to war criminal Putin, the Iranian regime, and the Chinese Communist Party.

The brave Georgian people are still on the streets for 76 days of consecutive protests. Eighty percent of Georgians want to be close friends with America and part of the EU and NATO, but the regime is responding with violence and arbitrary arrests.

The regime has given the Black Sea port to the Chinese Communist Party and has visited the regime in Teheran as Iran sends its assassins to murder President Donald Trump.

Legitimate Georgian President Salome Zourabichvili, who attended the Trump inauguration, is courageously standing for free and fair elections.

In conclusion, God bless our troops as the global war on terrorism continues. Open borders for dictators put all Americans at risk of more 9/11 attacks imminent as warned by the FBI. Mr. Trump is reinstituting existing laws to protect American families with peace through strength.

END HUNGER NOW

(Mr. MCGOVERN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, the party who proclaims to be America First is screwing over our farmers and making it harder for people in rural communities to survive.

This unified Republican government hasn't done one damn thing to support regular people or help them put food on the table.

The House Agriculture Committee is holding a hearing this morning about the economic crisis in farm country. News flash: It is declining by the minute because Donald Trump and Elon Musk work for the billionaires, not for regular people.

This self-proclaimed America First crowd is threatening tariffs against our closest trading partners and upending food aid that is shipped by the American farmers. The last trade war started by this President cost American farmers \$27 billion in exports.

Here is the sick part: Republicans are cheering him on because they want to use the money they steal from the American people, from farmers, and from SNAP recipients to give billionaires a tax break.

That is not America first. That is not supporting our rural economy. It is a sham deal for working people.

CONGRATULATING HIGHLAND COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

(Mr. CLINE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Highland County Public Library as it celebrates 50 years of service.

In 1975, James H. Bowen petitioned the board of supervisors to establish a local library. Initially, it operated as a

branch of the Botetourt-Rockbridge Regional Library in the Highland Masonic Building. By 1981, rising costs and a desire for independence led the library to become an independent institution. Community members were determined to give the library a permanent home.

In 1982, the Mountain View Extension Homemakers Club contributed \$500, sparking a successful fundraising campaign that raised \$65,000 by 1986. In 1987, the community's dream became a reality with the opening of a new library building. For decades, the library has been a cornerstone of the community.

Much of the library's success is thanks to former member and volunteer Margaret "Peggy" Bird, who has been a guiding force for nearly its entire history and remains a supporter to this day. The library has been led by just three directors: Mary Richardson, Pat Shield, and current director, Tomi Herold, who has led the library for the past 25 years.

I congratulate the Highland County Public Library for its 50 years of service and wish them many more.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE PHILADELPHIA EAGLES

(Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, this is perhaps the happiest speech I have ever given on the House floor. It is to honor this year's Super Bowl champions, the Philadelphia Eagles.

As a long-suffering and scarred Philadelphia sports fan and one born and raised in Philadelphia, I think I speak for many of my neighbors and fellow fans when I say some of us thought we might never see the day we see an Eagles Super Bowl. Now, we have actually seen two in the last 7 years.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to introduce H. Res. 123, along with my colleagues DON NORCROSS of New Jersey, as well as Representatives EVANS, SCANLON, DEAN, FITZPATRICK, and HOULAHAN of Pennsylvania. I am proud to say it is bipartisan.

Fly, Eagles, fly. Go Birds. I congratulate the Super Bowl champion Philadelphia Eagles.

PUTTING AMERICAN LIVES IN JEOPARDY WILL NOT BE TOLERATED

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, this week, we have a chance to send a clear message: Break the law, put Americans in danger, and there will be consequences.

Congressman CISCOMANI's Agent Raul Gonzalez Officer Safety Act holds traf-

fickers and illegal immigrants accountable for reckless actions, especially those who flee from Border Patrol agents and create deadly high-speed chase incidents.

This bill makes evading law enforcement within 100 miles of the southern border a serious crime, with heavy jail time and a lifetime ban on ever gaining legal status in the U.S.

If you put American lives at risk, you will face the full force of the law.

It is time to pass this bill and show that putting Americans lives in jeopardy will not be tolerated, and you will be held fully accountable.

This is the type of leadership that we have had under President Trump and we need to continue to have here in this House to keep our borders secure and not unnecessarily subject our citizens to this needless risk of deadly tragedies.

REUNITING KOREAN-AMERICAN FAMILIES

(Mr. SUBRAMANYAM asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Mr. Speaker, family separation is devastating and traumatic for any community, but that is especially true for the 70,000 Korean Americans in Virginia and the millions across the country.

The Korean war led to the displacement and separation of countless families, and many remained separated for decades.

These second- and third-generation Korean Americans were raised on the heartbreaking stories of family members cruelly divided. Now, in the twilight of their lives, they seek to reconnect.

That is why I have introduced the bipartisan Korean American Divided Families National Registry Act with my colleague Congresswoman YOUNG KIM. This bill creates a registry to help accelerate the progress for Korean Americans who wish to reunite with lost loved ones.

Since 1985, there have been 21 family reunions for citizens of South and North Korea organized by their governments, bringing together 4,000 families.

The Korean families here in the U.S. deserve to have that opportunity. Congress must work across the aisle to bring families together, not tear them apart. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF JOEY HANDLON

(Mr. SHREVE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SHREVE. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor the memory of a fellow Hoosier, Joey Handlon of Greenwood. He lost his life to fentanyl in 2022.

Joey was deeply loved by his parents, Kathy and Jamison Carrier. They have

turned their grief into action, sharing Joey's story to help prevent other families from experiencing similar heartbreak.

Last week, on this House floor, I voted for the HALT Fentanyl Act. It represents a crucial step to providing law enforcement with the necessary tools to keep these deadly drugs off of our streets and to save countless lives.

We must come together to confront this crisis by securing our borders, by holding traffickers accountable, and supporting those impacted. Together, we can save lives, and, in doing so, honor the legacy of Joey Handlon.

ASSAULT ON REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM

(Ms. GILLEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. GILLEN. Mr. Speaker, in the 2 years since the Dobbs decision, we have seen nothing short of an all-out assault on our reproductive rights and our reproductive freedoms, including a steady march to pass a national abortion ban coupled with efforts to roll back access to contraception and IVF.

It is truly shocking that in 2025, we have to defend Americans' access to birth control and ability to decide when they start a family, but the attacks on reproductive freedom keep coming. Four out of five people in this country oppose these attempts to restrict our autonomy and our freedom, and we must fight back. That means making sure that the right to access to contraception is codified into law.

I am proud to cosponsor H.R. 999, the Right to Contraception Act. I will continue to fight to defend women's and families' freedom to make their own personal healthcare decisions. This should not be partisan. Preserving our freedom is American.

IMPACT OF FENTANYL ON NORTH CAROLINA

(Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, after meeting with sheriffs, prosecutors, and families from across eastern North Carolina, one thing is clear: Fentanyl is devastating our communities. The deadly drug is causing kids to overdose, destroying families, and overwhelming law enforcement.

Congress must take action to address this crisis, which is why I introduced the MAP Act and supported the HALT Fentanyl Act. We must secure our border, hold the cartels accountable, and stop this poison from entering communities across America.

Mr. Speaker, the opioid crisis is not just a border State problem. It is all of ours. Congress must protect our families by properly equipping our law enforcement community and working to decrease the demand for illicit drugs.